

THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER.

L. L. POLK, EDITOR.
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THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER,
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Winston, N. C., Feb. 17, 1886.

OUR ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

It is with pleasure that we announce to our readers that we have associated with us in the editorial conduct of the PROGRESSIVE FARMER, Mr. P. F. DUFFY, formerly editor of the Greensboro Patriot and late of the editorial staff of the Charlotte Observer. Mr. Duffy is too well known to the reading public to require any introduction or commendation at our hands.

—Gen. Winfield Scott Hancock died at Governor's Island, N. Y., on Tuesday of last week. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1824, graduated at West Point in 1844. He was a brave and patriotic soldier and was supported by the Southern people, for the Presidency in 1880, more cordially than has been any candidate for the past twenty-five years.

—Young man are you looking for a good investment? Banks fail—stocks and bonds become valueless—fortunes vanish under the treacherous manipulations of speculation. Your best and safest capital is in a brave, cheerful heart, a strong will and a willing hand, and the best and safest investment is in the fruitful soil. Invest your capital there, and it will surely pay you a handsome dividend.

Why do not our farmers raise more onions? It is an easy matter to grow 500 bushels per acre, and they are now worth \$1 per bushel. Many garden crops must be sent to market in small quantities each day, but onions can be sent all at once and are marketed as easily as potatoes or corn. Let the boys try a small patch this spring.

—Our State Superintendent of Public Instruction has just issued a circular, giving a list (which is not full, owing to failure of County Superintendents to report) of the Private Schools and Colleges in the State. The list gives location of schools—its name, date when established, whether chartered or not, number of pupils, name of principal, whether denominational or not, and whether white or colored. The number of schools and colleges reported is 301, of which there are 282 white, and 19 colored. Thirty-one are chartered.

—Who among us as a class have best succeeded at farming since the war? It is the small farmer. Why? Because he generally does the work himself and it is well done. He supervises everything, and is familiar with all the details of his business. What class of farmers are least troubled with debt, mortgages and sheriff's notices? Who among them has the ready cash in emergencies? It is he who raises his own bread and meat at home.

Did you ever know, in all your life, a half dozen farmers who failed who followed this safe and good old-fashioned rule? How many have you known to fail and fall under the sheriff's hammer, who owned large and magnificent farms—kept from four to fifteen mules and horses, but who bought their supplies!

—The railroad convention that met in Atlanta, Ga., on the 3rd inst., is regarded as one of the most important meetings of railroad officials ever held in the South. Its business was to arrange for a change in the gauge of Southern railroads. As a result of the meeting, it is said that on the first day of June next, the gauge of railroads all over the South will be virtually the same as the standard in the East, North and West.—Home-Democrat.

INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION.

In our last issue we gave, in brief, what work is being accomplished in our sister States, Virginia and Georgia in the matter of Industrial Education, by the aid of the Land Scrip Fund, donated to each State under the Act of Congress, July 2nd, 1862. It was shown that Georgia sold her Land-Scrip for \$240,000, and that the interest at 8 per cent. amounting annually to \$19,200 was appropriated to the establishment of four "branch" Agricultural Colleges, all of which are now in successful operation. It was shown that Virginia sold her share for the sum of \$560,468, and that the State is paying six per cent. interest, regularly on that amount. With this, the State established two Agricultural Colleges, to the support of which it pays annually the interest amounting to \$32,628.08. These institutions have connected with them farms and workshops for the purpose of training the pupils in the use of machinery and tools and for practical illustrations of all departments of work on the farm,—for the exemplification of the lessons they are taught in their rooms. In short, the systems adopted are in compliance with the requirements of the act of Congress granting the fund—that it should be applied "to teach such branches of learning as are related to Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, in such manner as the Legislatures of the States respectively may prescribe, in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions of life."

HOW THE FUND HAS BEEN MANAGED IN NORTH CAROLINA.

Our Legislature, session 1866-'7, by resolution, accepted the grant from the Government, which under the apportionment, amounted to 270,000 acres. This fund, on February 11th, 1867, derived from the bounty of the Government was by the Legislature "transferred to the Trustees of the University of the State for the purpose of effecting the object of the grant." "Provided, that the University shall comply with the Act of Congress and make its leading object to teach such branches of learning as are related to Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts without excluding other Scientific studies and including Military tactics."

The fund was invested in "special tax bonds" and of course, lost. But the Legislature of 1874-'5 made good the loss by ordering the State Treasurer to issue to the Trustees certificates of indebtedness to the amount of \$125,000, bearing interest payable semi-annually at 6 per cent. The "worthless securities" or "special tax bonds" were ordered to be burned. It appears there were other "bonds" (not "special tax bonds") of the assets, left to the disposition of the Legislature, which if ever disposed of does not appear.

Thus it is seen that this fund donated and set apart by the general government to our State, for the special objects, mentioned above, has been appropriated and applied to the support of the University of our State. No intelligent man, we presume, will claim that the curriculum or systems of teaching at the University, are in compliance with the Act of Congress, or with the Act of the Legislature making the transfer, which specially "provided that the University shall comply with the Act of Congress and make its leading object to teach such branches of learning as are related to Agriculture and the Mechanic Arts."

We have naught to say against the curriculum or systems, as adapted to high grade or classical education. We have naught to say against its officers, or against it as a State University. With its character and prosperity as our State Institution we have nothing to do, in this connection, except to join all loyal patriotic citizens in the earnest wish that it shall rise higher and higher in the grand and noble work of educating the youth of our State. It should be the pride of every native son of the State. It should be fostered and encouraged by the State.

We earnestly desire to see it liberally aided. It has won an enviable position among the Institutions of learning, but as an Agricultural College, in the sense and meaning contemplated by the Act of Congress, we are forced to say in all kindness, after a trial of a number of years, it is a most lamentable failure.

Let the fund of \$125,000 be placed in our Treasury to the credit of the industrial classes, to whom, by the law, it only and rightfully belongs. Let the remaining assets be added to it. Let the interest, now used by the University, go to the support of schools for the training of the industrial classes—let this money which belongs to them, be applied for their benefit as the law requires. Let this be done and the Legislature can then establish a system for the industrial education of our youth, instead of offering a single little school "to the highest bidder."

Let this be done, and then let the Legislature go to our State Treasury and take out whatever amount may be necessary and give it to support the University. We would not cripple the University, but we would favor liberal appropriations by the Legislature for it. But let these appropriations be made from a fund provided by the State, and not from a fund which should go toward the establishing of schools, as directed by law, for the masses of the people. The PROGRESSIVE FARMER is a friend of the University and will stand by it in all rightful measures to promote its prosperity and enlarge its usefulness, and it knows of no kindlier or friendlier office it could perform, at this stage of public thought among our people, than to admonish those having authority to surrender gracefully to the demand of the masses of the people, that this fund shall be applied as the law directs. Do this, and there will be less opposition to appropriations for that Institution. Refuse it, and the opposition will grow stronger.

In a matter involving the standing of the University in the minds and affections of the people, the PROGRESSIVE FARMER would be untrue to the best interests of that Institution, if it failed to speak plainly, and it would be grossly false to the farmers and other industrial classes of our State, if it failed to demand that their rights be respected. It makes no war on the University,—but it stands for the unquestioned and undoubted rights of the people.

—The oldest agricultural organization in the State is the Pioneer Club at Littleton. The plan upon which it is based is, we think, admirable, and adopted to almost every neighborhood. We give a brief outline with the hope that it may induce many of our progressive farmers to organize neighborhood clubs on a similar basis. The membership is restricted to twelve. They meet once every month and each time at a member's house, where they read essays, exchange experiences, and discuss such questions as may be of immediate interest to the members. The plan of proceeding, and which we think has many commendable features is: To meet in January at the residence of a member. The whole Club inspects the farm, the barn, the garden, the orchard, the stock, the implements, the machinery and investigates his methods in all departments. After this, they hold their meeting, appoint a committee of three to make a report at its next meeting in February on this farm, methods, &c. This report is discussed freely, and thus the Club goes from house to house until at the end of the year it has visited every member. We see how pleasant as well as profitable this plan must be. Each member visits his eleven neighbors and spends a most delightful and profitable day with each during the year. He gets the benefit of the methods and experience of all the others, by observation and of their fund of information on various subjects in the meetings. It is simple, practical and pleasant. Why cannot we have a thousand such Clubs in our State? Any vacancy in the club by death or otherwise, is filled by election, and in this club there are always found on file plenty of applications and from the very best farmers. Who will be the first to organize such a Club?

GOING TO WINSTON.—The family of Mr. P. F. Duffy left yesterday for Greensboro, from whence place they will go to Winston, where Mr. Duffy will be located in

the future. We are glad to learn that he has accepted an engagement on THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER, the new weekly paper just established in Winston by Col. L. L. Polk. Mr. Duffy will fulfill the requirements of his journalistic engagements, in addition to the duties of the government position to which he was recently appointed. Knowing Mr. Duffy as well as we do, we consider Col. Polk fortunate in a high degree in securing his editorial services, and the readers of THE PROGRESSIVE FARMER will, we feel, yet have reason to agree with us. Mr. Duffy leaves for Winston in a few days. We regret the departure of himself and family from our midst, but we wish them well, and trust that among the people of Winston they will find a pleasant abiding place. Good luck to you and yours, Duff. —Charlotte Observer.

The Railroad Engineer.

"Trains collide—fearful loss of life!"—"Derailment of a whole train!"—"passengers held and burned under the wreck!"—"Terrible catastrophe!"—"in engine plunged through a bridge"—"the noble bearing of the engineer"—"could have saved himself, but is found with his hand grasping his lever!" Such are the brief but sad announcements we see almost daily in our newspapers. Read the names of the unfortunate victims, and on the mournful list we almost invariably find that of the faithful engineer.

His noble heart, upon which lay the awful responsibility of the lives of his passengers, nerved his arm and he held with steady hand the lever, upon which rested their only hope of escape. He forgot for the moment the loving wife, home, children, self and life, in his anxiety for the safety of others. Hundreds of thousands of passengers, cosily seated in comfortable cars, or reposing serenely in the splendid berths of the Pullman Palace, daily pass over the 120,000 miles of rail which spans our country, little thinking that their lives are in the hands of one man. Over yawning chasms, under hanging precipices, over plains and through mountains, amid the blackness of darkness and through the wild howlings of the storm, the train glides swiftly on with its precious freight under the guidance of the steady hand that never rests save on the lever and the eye that peers through the night-gloom with the fixedness of a star.

One moment of sleep for the weary eyelids; one moment of selfishness and forgetfulness and all might be over!

We have never known a selfish, narrow-hearted engineer. Begrimed with dirt and sweat and grease, we have found under their rough exterior, as a class, those high qualities of head and heart that gives man his kinship to the gods; and we never see one alight from his proud but fearfully responsible seat of power that we do not feel that the grandest of earth should salute him with uncovered head.

What Does It Mean?

The January number of the Bulletin of the State Board of Agriculture, says:

"The Bulletin of the Department will henceforth have a much wider scope than heretofore. It has been in a great measure directed to our staple crops; subjects deemed important to the general progress of the State, but which did not lie in the direct line of our agricultural journals, have also occupied a large space. Henceforth it will embrace the whole field of agriculture, giving chief prominence, as heretofore, to our staples, while as much attention as circumstances will admit of will be given to the orchard, the garden, to stock, to poultry—indeed to everything within the domain of rural economy."

It will be much enlarged, and distributed more widely throughout the State."

So we are to have another agricultural journal, run under the auspices and authority of the Board! It is to be paid for out of the people's money—printed at the office of the State printer, and edited by four first-class writers, and all personally known to us as elegant gentleman, to-wit: Mr. M. McGeehee, Dr. C. W. Dabney, Mr. P. M. Wilson and Mr. J. T. Patrick. That the new journal will be a success, no one acquainted with the resources of the Board and the character and ability of the editorial corps, can doubt. Its typographical and other mechanical features will be all that could be desired. It is, perhaps, the largest venture in newspaperism, ever attempted in our State—the item of salaries to the editors, alone, being \$7,200.

Some will doubtless charge the Board with using the "public money to compete with private enterprise, but the field is large, and just at this time is most inviting. "We wish our neighbor much success," and most cordially welcome the brethren to a seat with us.

SEE HOW EGGS ARE IMPORTED.

The following statement of the importation of eggs into the United States is furnished us by the bureau of statistics of the treasury department at Washington. It shows conclusively that the hen business is far from being overdone, and suggests the idea of a tariff on imported eggs:

Years.	Quantities. Dozens.	Values. Dollars.
1876.....	4,903,771	630,393
1877.....	5,048,271	617,622
1878.....	6,053,649	726,037
1879.....	6,022,506	646,735
1880.....	7,773,492	901,332
1881.....	9,578,071	1,206,067
1882.....	11,929,355	1,808,585
1883.....	15,279,065	2,677,604
1884.....	16,487,204	2,667,360
1885.....	16,098,450	2,476,672

SOUTHERN INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT.

Iron, a representative journal of the metal-working trades, devoted to mechanics, engineering and manufactures, published at Philadelphia, says: "It is self-evident that the industrial advance of the South during the last few years has been marvellous, and there is every indication that it is a thoroughly healthy and permanent growth. It is no sudden matter, but rather only the beginning of the wonderful advancement the South is about to make in adding to its own and the nation's wealth. A surplus of a full hundred millions this year will fit it for more than doubling that surplus next year, and the next decade will witness the South closely pressing the North in every channel available for industry. The South will largely multiply its demand for iron and coal within the next few years, and furnish the iron and coal from its own mines and furnaces; and the day is close at hand when its cotton will be all spun and mainly woven by its water power and its labor."

EDUCATION IN THE SHOPS.—The Gold Leaf regrets that the question of establishing an Industrial School in North Carolina has been abolished—for the present, at least. We had hoped for better things. It cannot be denied that the South needs institutions of this kind, and we here in North Carolina with all our vast resources of mines and manufactures awaiting the magic touch of the skilled workman and the artisan, have cause to feel it most fully. In the North it is different. And is not this one of the chief causes why we lag behind in the race of industrial progress and development rather than our lack of energy or want of capital? We think so. The hand must be educated as well as the mind.—Gold Leaf.

President J. C. Greenough has submitted his report for the academic year 1884-'5 of the Massachusetts Agricultural College. Charles Wellington, P. H. D., has taken the place of Assistant-Prof. Stockbridge in the department of chemistry; both are graduates of the college. The only other change in the faculty proper is that occasioned by the expiration of the detail of Lieut. V. H. Brigman, whose place is supplied by Lieut. G. E. Sage, Fifth Artillery, U. S. A. The total number of students in attendance at the college for the year was 123, more than at any time in the last five years. Eleven degrees were conferred at last commencement, and thirty-two students were admitted to the freshman class. An active effort has been put forth for some time past by the alumni and authorities for building up the library, and over 1500 volumes have been added in about six months.

—A carload of meat—western sides—was unloaded in this city Friday and stored away in the warehouses of those of our merchants by whom it was ordered. This would indicate that the farmers of this vicinity failed again last year to raise their own meat supply on the farm. Until our farmers learn the secret of raising their own supplies, and practice it, there will be little substantial prosperity come to this country. Diversify your crops, farmers.—Weekly Argus.